

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical disc apparatus for recording and/or reproducing information, comprising:

a supporting assembly;

a spindle motor, associated with the supporting assembly,
5 having a spindle with a spindle axis for rotating an optical disc supported by the spindle about the spindle axis; and

an optical lens unit associated with the supporting assembly for scanning an information surface of said optical disc, said optical lens unit comprising:

10 a focussing lens assembly with a focussing lens having a focussing lens area bounded by a focussing lens periphery and a focussing axis intersecting said focussing lens area, said focussing lens assembly being adapted for focussing an optical beam on said information surface; and

15 a swing arm assembly comprising a generally elongate swing arm structure supporting said focussing lens assembly at a free end, the swing arm assembly being rotatable about a swing axis spaced from said free end and directed substantially perpendicularly to the swing arm structure and generally parallel
20 to said spindle axis, the swing arm assembly also comprising a movable magnetic focussing means provided near said free end of the

swing arm assembly for driving said focussing lens along said focussing axis so as to focus said optical beam on the optical disc information surface,

25 the optical disc apparatus also comprising:

a stationary magnetic focussing means associated with the supporting assembly for magnetically cooperating, through an intermediate air gap, with said movable focussing means in order to generate a magnetic force vector having a vector component parallel
30 to said focussing axis so as to drive the focussing lens assembly along said focussing axis,

wherein the stationary magnetic focusing means and the movable magnetic focussing means are disposed and cooperate such that said force vector component intersects said focussing lens
35 area, and

wherein the optical lens assembly comprises, near said free end of the arm assembly, a perpendicularly-reflecting optical element connected to the focussing lens, said perpendicularly-reflecting optical element having a reflective surface facing a
40 side of the focussing lens situated away from the information surface of the optical disc, when supported by the spindle, and causing reflection of a laser beam travelling in a general direction between the swing axis and the focussing axis so as to travel through the focussing lens generally along the focussing
45 axis, and

wherein the movable magnetic focussing means is connected to the perpendicularly-reflecting optical element in a position on a side of said ~~of said~~ perpendicularly-reflecting optical element opposite from said reflecting surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said force vector component generally coincides with the focussing axis of said focussing lens.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the swing arm assembly is bounded by spaced virtual parallel flat planes extending perpendicularly to the swing axis, a first plane being nearer to the optical disc, when supported by the spindle, and a second plane being more remote from said optical disc;

at least a portion of the reflecting element is inwardly spaced from said second plane thereby forming an intermediate space between the perpendicularly-reflecting optical element and said second plane; and

the stationary magnetic focussing means extends into said intermediate space between the perpendicularly-reflecting optical

element and said second plane, thus occupying at least a portion of
15 said intermediate space.

5. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed
in claim 2, wherein the movable magnetic focussing means and the
stationary magnetic focussing means cooperate through the
intermediate air gap, said intermediate air gap being generally
5 parallel to said reflecting surface of the perpendicularly-
reflecting optical element.

6. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed
in claim 1, wherein the stationary magnetic focussing means is
configured as arcuate permanent magnetic circuit means, and the
movable magnetic focussing means is configured as electrical
5 magnetic coil means.

7. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed
in claim 6, wherein:

the reflecting surface of the perpendicularly-reflecting
optical element in the focussing lens assembly is disposed in an
5 inclined plane relative to the swing axis of the swing arm
assembly;

said movable electrical magnetic coil means is disposed generally in an inclined plane parallel to the reflecting surface; and

10 said stationary magnetic circuit means comprises an inclined face directed towards said movable electrical magnetic coil means, such that the said intermediate air gap between said movable electrical magnetic coil means and said stationary magnetic circuit means is disposed in an inclined plane generally parallel
15 to said inclined reflective surface of the perpendicularly-reflecting optical element in the focussing lens assembly.

8. (Previously Presented) The optical disc apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the swing arm structure comprises two spaced elongate generally parallel flat resilient arm elements extending between the swing axis and the focussing lens assembly, said arm
5 elements being interconnected at or near the free end of the swing arm assembly by the focussing lens assembly.